

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, CH, US

SUBJECT: PRC MULTI-COUNTRY TRADE JOURNAL

REF: HONG KONG 2489

1. REFTEL OUTLINED PLANS OF MR. STEVEN LEE FOR CREATION OF "MULTI-COUNTRY TRADE JOURNAL" AND SUGGESTED THAT DEPARTMENT EXPLORE INTEREST OF NCUSCT IN COOPERATING WITH THIS VENTURE. DEPTOFF DISCUSSED PROPOSAL WITH NCUSCT PUBLICATIONS DIRECTOR, NICK LUDLOW, WHO HAD FOLLOWING REACTION:

2. NCUSCT WOULD BE WILLING TO COOPERATE WITH MR. LEE BUT NOT TO THE EXTENT OF SUPPLYING HIM FREE OF CHARGE WITH MATERIALS PREPARED FOR THE US-CHINA BUSINESS REVIEW AT GREAT TIME AND EXPENSE. LUDLOW FEELS THAT WHILE THE PROPOSED PUBLICATION SOUNDS INTERESTING IN THEORY, THERE ARE MANY PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES INVOLVED IN LAUNCHING A VENTURE
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OF THIS NATURE. LUDLOW ALSO SUGGESTED THAT LEE CONTACT NCUSCT HONG KONG REPRESENTATIVE, JOHN KAMM, IF HE HAS NOT ALREADY DONE SO. FYI, MEL SEARL; WILL ALSO BE IN HONG KONG FOLLOWING NCUSCT IMPORTERS' DELEGATION VISIT, (PROBABLY IN EARLY MAY) AND COULD DISCUSS MATTER AT THAT TIME.

3. OUR OWN REACTION IS THAT A MAGAZINE OF THE SORT PRO-

POSED MIGHT PROVE USEFUL AND VIABLE IF LEE GETS NECESSARY
PRC AND OTHERS' SUPPORT. HOWEVER, IT WOULD PARTLY
OVERLAP AND COMPETE WITH SEVERAL OTHERS, INCLUDING THE US-
CHINA BUSINESS REVIEW, THE AMERICAN INDUSTRIAL REPORT, AND
THE PRC'S OWN CHINA'S FOREIGN TRADE, AS WELL AS OTHER LESS
WELL KNOWN PUBLICATIONS. WE ARE INCLINED TO BE CAU- - -
TIOUS ABOUT FURTHER USG INVOLVEMENT AND RECOMMEND YOU EN-
COURAGE LEE TO PURSUE MATTER DIRECTLY WITH NCUSCT.

4. COMMERCE CONCURS.
CHRISTOPHER

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